



**HOUSE ARMED SERVICES SUBCOMMITTEE ON MILITARY PERSONNEL
JOHN McHUGH, NEW YORK
CHAIRMAN**

PRESS RELEASE

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Statement of Chairman John M. McHugh

Military Personnel Subcommittee Hearing on Recruitment and Retention and Military Personnel Policy, Compensation and Benefits

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Subcommittee on Military Personnel has always considered the close oversight of military recruiting and retention programs a matter of the highest priority. That responsibility has seldom weighed as heavily on this Subcommittee as it has over the past four years. We have watched these programs very closely and I believe we have responded with the appropriate legislative solutions when problems have been identified.

Our job remains difficult. This may be the most challenging era for recruiting and retention since the creation of the all volunteer force. The successful completion of our mission will require the close coordination, at all levels, of a finely tuned team comprised of the services, DoD, and the Congress. I promise that this Subcommittee is prepared to hold up our end of the bargain.

Today we will continue our dialogue on recruiting, retention, and a variety of other personnel programs. We have a number of concerns about continuing problems achieving recruiting goals, the erosion in recruit quality, the commitment to fully fund recruiting and retention programs in a timely manner, and the adequacy of the proposed pay raise. We look forward to the upcoming discussion and appreciate the participation of our two panels today.

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